



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

OCT 31 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the AbilityOne[®] Program

On September 30, 2014, President Obama proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. "Expect. Employ. Empower." is this year's theme. It provides a tremendous opportunity to recognize employees with disabilities and celebrate the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 45,000 Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities to find meaningful employment on Federal contracts. This includes more than 3,000 veterans and service-disabled veterans who perform work on these contracts.

For over 75 years, the Program now known as AbilityOne has provided a wide variety of quality goods and services for the defense mission. The Department of Defense (DoD) remains the leading customer of the Program, procuring more than \$1.7 billion in business during FY 2014, which equates to 62 percent of AbilityOne's sales and an estimated 30,000 jobs for people with disabilities. The Federal Acquisition Regulation, Subpart 8.7, prescribes the policies and procedures for purchasing from AbilityOne sources to satisfy procurement needs. AbilityOne is a procurement program with a purpose. In this environment of reduced budgets, your continued support of AbilityOne is critical to provide individuals with disabilities every opportunity to contribute to our great Nation and lead independent lives.

The DoD workforce professionals identified in the attached list have demonstrated leadership and commitment to increasing AbilityOne business. I congratulate them and express great appreciation to the members of the defense acquisition workforce for providing people with disabilities the opportunity to support our mission.

My staff specialist for disabilities procurement policy is Ms. Susan Pollack, DPAP, at 703-697-8336 or susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil.



Frank Kendall

Attachment:
As stated

Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Members Recognized in Fiscal Year 2014

Awards Presented by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission

- **Ms. Vicki Taft**, Section Chief, Base Support Section, Tinker Air Force Base – Recipient of the E.R. “Dick” Alley Career Achievement Award. This award recognizes an individual who has provided extraordinary achievement and sustained effort in utilizing the Federal procurement system which creates AbilityOne employment opportunities.
- **Mr. William G. Sproule**, Senior Procurement Analyst, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Contracting) – Recipient of the 2014 Most Valuable Liaison Award. The Commission’s Most Valuable Liaison Award recognizes Federal employees, who in their roles as liaisons demonstrate valuable effort in creating AbilityOne employment opportunities.
- **Mr. Michael Cowley**, Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist, Defense Logistics Agency, Troop Support – Recipient of the Outstanding Contributions Award. This award recognizes a Federal employee for their exceptional efforts in creating AbilityOne employment opportunities on Federal contracts.

Awards presented by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and National Association for the Employment of People Who Are Blind (NAEPB) in FY 2014 and at the 2014 NIB/NAEPB National Conference and Expo

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- **Mr. Richard Ginman (SES)**, Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy – Recipient of the “Spirit of Independence” Award. This award recognizes an individual in government who, over the course of his or her career, has demonstrated a commitment to advancing economic and personal independence for people who are blind.

Washington Headquarters Service – Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award for Contract Management Support Services

- **Mr. David W. Bennett**, Branch Chief, Contracting Officer
- **Mr. Jonathan Bertsch**, Contract Specialist
- **Ms. Bethanie Healey**, Contracting Officer
- **Ms. Chrissandra Smith**, Contract Specialist

Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)

- **Mr. Joseph H. Jeu (SES)**, Director and Chief Executive Officer – Recipient of an “Outstanding Performance Award” for long time support of the AbilityOne Program. Mr. Jeu accepted the award on behalf of the DeCA team.

Defense Logistics Agency, Land and Maritime

- **Mr. Hoa Ta**, Senior Cost and Price Analyst – for distinguished service and contributions to the DoD-AbilityOne Contract Management Services Program.

Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Troop Support - Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award

- **Mr. Roger Dixon**, Director, Supplier Operations, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Mr. Dan Ferry**, Lighting and HVAC Division Chief, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment
- **Mr. Ralph Lund**, Director, Supplier Operations, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment
- **Mr. Abin Mathai**, Contracting Officer, DLA Troop Support Industrial Hardware
- **Ms. Theresa Rucci**, IST Chief, Optical and Laboratory, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Ms. Nicole Welsh**, Acquisition Specialist, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Mr. Stephen Wielgosz**, Lighting & Targets IST Chief, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment

Department of the Navy, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) – Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award

- **Mr. William E. Bickert, Jr. (SES)**, Vice Commander, NAVSUP Global Logistics Support
- **Ms. Pauline Chriscoe**, Southeast Regional Hazardous Material Director and Hazardous Material Program Director, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville
- **Ms. Mattie Washington**, Supervisory Contract Specialist, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville
- **Ms. Carolyn Wright**, Hazardous Material Support Representative, NAVSUP Global Logistics Support San Diego

Awards presented by SourceAmerica in FY 2014 and at the 2014 National Training and Achievement Conference

Recipients of the President's Award: This award recognizes Federal employees who have demonstrated a long-standing, ongoing, and supportive relationship nurturing the AbilityOne Program thereby creating employment of qualified persons with significant disabilities.

- **LTG William N. Phillips** (retired), Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology
- **LTG Raymond V. Mason** (retired), U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G4
- **BG Stephen B. Leisenring** (retired), Deputy Director of Contracting, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Army Human Resources Services Center, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Recipient of the Government Award for Services (Military) Award. This award recognizes a military organization that has provided outstanding support to the AbilityOne Program for Services.

DoD-AbilityOne Procurement Champions Recognized by SourceAmerica in FY 2014:

- **Ms. Ellen Klotz**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (Mid-Atlantic Region), California, Maryland
- **Mr. Salvatore M. Cianci**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California
- **Mr. John R. Perry**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California
- **LTC Warren Seymour**, U.S. Army, Commander, 8th Battalion, Army Reserve Careers Division
- **Mr. Joseph C. Timmons**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California